



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/899, 410	07/23/97	GALLOWAY	D

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IM71/0302

EXAMINER

NOLD, C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	1772

DATE MAILED: 03/02/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 08/899,410	Applicant(s) Galloway et al
	Examiner Charles R. Nold	Group Art Unit 1772

Responsive to communication(s) filed on request for CPA 10-22-98.

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 30 days month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims 1-21 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 10-22-98 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 08/899410 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Election/Restriction

2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Applicant is requested to elect a single species for each of the 1st to 5th layers, as outlined below;

3. Applicant is requested to elect between the sets of claims 1-16 and 17-21. The set 17-21 disclose 4th and 5th layers of EVA and ethylene copolymers respectfully. If applicant elects this set of claims, it is noted that the examiner interprets these claims to be 2nd/1st/3rd/4th/ 5th which is adhesive/barrier/adhesive/EVA/ethylene copolymer. This makes the 2nd outer layer an adhesive layer, which does not seem possible.

4.

Claims 1, 12 and 17 all recite a 1st barrier layer of either EVA or EVOH, please elect one.

Please elect a species for the 2nd and 3rd layer, as set forth below, as it pertains to claims 1-16;

Claim 1 recites *either I or ii*, for the 2nd or 3rd layer,

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Claim 12 recites a species for the 2nd inner layer of I or ii and a third layer of (I) or a blend,

Applicant is requested to choose a species for the 2nd and 3rd layers.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

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5. A telephone call was made to Mr. Bisbikis on 3-1-99 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles R. Nold whose telephone number is (703) 308-4416.


Charles R. Nold
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1772